

Methodological Notes relating to support provided to Patient Organisations and contracted services provided by individuals representing Patient Organisations

As part of our commitment to transparency and openness about our activities and to meet the requirements of the Association of the British Pharmaceutical Industry (ABPI) Code of Practice, we at Fresenius Medical Care (UK) Ltd. (FME) have disclosed all transfers of value (ToV) to Patient Organisations on our company website.

A Patient Organisation (PO) is an organisation which is patient-focused, and whereby patients and/or carers represent a majority of members in governing bodies.

In preparation for disclosure of any ToV to PO's, FME have made the following considerations:

- FME interacts with POs to support healthcare, scientific research, and education in the area of renal services. We share knowledge and collaborate with the representatives of POs to improve patient care.
- Prior to making any agreements with PO's, FME reviews the compliance risks from any engagements. We apply the onboarding process to assess, screen, validate, manage, and monitor any interactions to ensure that our internal compliance requirements are met.
- The written contract specifies the nature of the services to be provided and the basis for payment of those services and, where possible, a breakdown of agreed costs along with the disclosure requirements. Once this is complete, the PO signs a transparency agreement in which they are agreeing to follow the principles laid by the ABPI Code of Practice.
- The value of any transfers has been made in GBP Stirling (£).
- The transfer of values provided on the disclosure form via the company website is in all instances the gross amount, which may or may not include Value Added Tax (VAT).
- Any fees and expenses relating to the service are disclosed separately.
- In the case of a multi-year contract with a PO, the payments made within the same financial year will be present on the disclosure form via the company website for that given year.
- Information regarding any ToV will remain in the public domain (ABPI platform and FME website) for three years from the date of publication and FME are required to store this information for a period of five years.
- FMEs disclosures adhere to, but do not transcend, the ABPI Code of Practice.